

9. How many individuals did the Department contact for SLS services before someone accepted? Did the Department find there were individuals on the waiting list they could not contact? If so, how many? Please discuss how the Department proposes the waiting list be modified to reflect the true demand for services.

Community Centered Boards (CCBs) have been working to process enrollments for the HCBS-SLS waiver. Initial data collected by the CCBs from March through November of 2014 indicates that about 28% of individuals decline enrollment in the HCBS-SLS waiver when offered or cannot be located. Data from the Community Contract Management System indicates that 228 individuals declined an HCBS-SLS enrollment between April 2014 and October 2014. The Department believes this data may be incomplete and is working with the CCBs to assure the data is accurate.

Table 1 below describes the reasons individuals have declined enrollment:

| Table 1 | |
|---|-------------------|
| Reasons for Declining Enrollment in the HCBS-SLS Waiver | |
| Reason | Percentage |
| Could not be located or living out of state | 29.62% |
| Not ready to enroll due to personal or family situation | 23.32% |
| Receiving and satisfied with services in another HCBS waiver | 20.8% |
| Ineligible for Medicaid | 12.18% |
| Receiving and satisfied with Home Care Allowance or other resources | 5.46% |
| Other | 8.61% |

In the strategic plan developed pursuant to House Bill 14-1051, “Concerning A Strategic Plan For Enrolling All Eligible Persons With Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities Into Programs At The Time Services Are Needed”, the Department describes the need for a data integrity review in order to accurately forecast current and future needs (the strategic plan is included as Attachment B). The Department and the CCBs have worked successfully over the past several years to improve the integrity of waiting list data; however, as demonstrated by the number of individual declining enrollment, there is still work to be done to ensure reported data is accurate. In order to establish integrity of the waiting list data, individuals remaining on the waiting lists will be contacted to determine if they still require services immediately and their level of need.

As a part of reaching out to individuals to determine if they still require services immediately, the Department will also reassess their support needs and preferences at a high level. For example, there are currently 691 individuals waiting for both the HCBS-DD and HCBS-SLS waivers. As these waivers vary in supports and services offered, the Department will confirm what level of service individuals need in order to more accurately identify the scope of unmet need.

With the elimination of the HCBS-SLS waiting list, CCBs have a significant workload related to processing the many new enrollments. The Department will work with the CCBs to determine the best way to conduct outreach to waiting list clients in order to avoid disruption of the enrollment process for the HCBS-SLS waiver. If necessary, the Department may use an independent contractor to contact clients. The Department anticipates this outreach and reconciliation of waiting list numbers will be complete by May 2015.